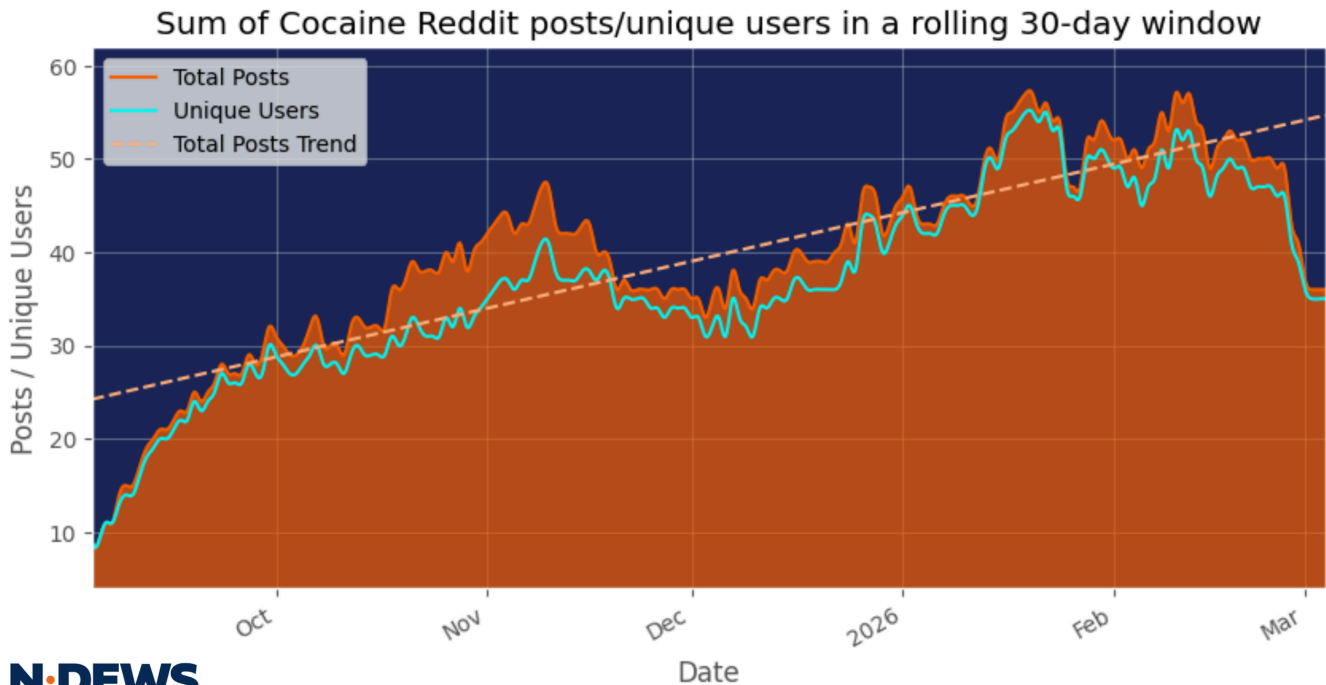


Alert from the NDEWS Web Monitoring Team Reddit mentions of Fentanyl



Why are we reporting on this? Cocaine remains a frequent topic of discussion on Reddit, with recent threads highlighting its continued prevalence in recreational settings and a growing concern over high-potency alternatives and dangerous combinations. Reddit discussions reveal concerning patterns including the transition from cocaine to more potent stimulants like methamphetamine, the co-use of emerging novel substances like 7-hydroxymitragynine (7-OH), and the severe physical toll of chronic use. Discussants also frequently mention the high potential for addiction and the severe impact the substance has on financial stability and family relationships.

What is Fentanyl? Cocaine is a powerful stimulant drug derived from the leaves of the coca plant that is most commonly found as a white powder or in a solid rock form known as crack. It is typically consumed through insufflation, smoking, or injection, and it is widely discussed across various online communities dedicated to drug use and recovery.

Public Health Impacts: Reddit discussants report significant adverse physical and mental health effects from cocaine use, including cardiovascular strain, respiratory distress, and severe nasal damage such as septal perforations or "craters." Multiple commenters describe experiences of cocaine-induced psychosis, extreme paranoia, and overwhelming anxiety following heavy use. There are also reports of overdose symptoms such as limb tremors, difficulty breathing, and dissociation, often requiring emergency medical intervention.

How is it Being Discussed? Reddit commenters believe that cocaine provides a short-lived but intense euphoric rush that often leads to compulsive redosing and difficulty controlling consumption, frequently leading to "binge" behavior. There is frequent discussion of cocaine being used in combination with other substances, including alcohol, benzodiazepines, and 7-hydroxymitragynine (7-OH), to manage "comedowns" or to create a "nodding" effect. Discussants often compare the effects of cocaine to methamphetamine, with some noting that the latter provides a superior high and is more cost-effective, leading to shifts in preference toward more potent stimulants. Additionally, commenters sharing advice on testing for fentanyl, managing physical health complications like "coke nose," and the necessity of maintaining secrecy to avoid professional or familial consequences.

Previous NDEWS Web Monitoring Reports on Cocaine:

- [NDEWS Weekly Briefing Issue 245: Cocaine - August 22, 2025](#)